

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-07 LAB-04
NSAE-00 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 L-03 NSC-05
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FM AMEMBASSY ROME
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9708
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN, GERMANY
USDOCOSOUTH

UNCLAS ROME 0338

USEC

USOECD ALSO FOR EMBASSY

USDOCOSOUTH FOR INTAFF

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: ELAB, PINT, IT
SUBJECT: LABOR POSTPONES GENERAL STRIKE DECISION

REF.: ROME 0136 AND 20857

1. SUMMARY: THE CCU HAS PUT OFF UNTIL JANUARY 13 THE FIXING OF A DATE FOR A NATIONAL GENERAL STRIKE. THIS DECISION DERIVES FROM LABOR'S JUDGMENT THAT THE ANDREOTTI GOVERNMENT HAS ENTERED A TERMINAL PHASE. MEANWHILE, TOP CCU LEADERS WILL MEET ON JANUARY 12 WITH THE LEADERS OF THE SIX PARTIES WHICH SUSTAIN THE CURRENT GOVERNMENT. END SUMMARY.

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2. THE CCU SECRETARIAT, ON JANUARY 5, DECIDED NOT TO FIX A DATE FOR THE NATIONAL GENERAL STRIKE WHICH THE CCU EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE PROCLAIMED ON DECEMBER 17. THAT DECISION HAS BEEN REMANDED TO THE CCU EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE, A MEETING OF WHICH HAS BEEN CONVOKED FOR JANUARY 13.

3. THE CCU DECISION WAS TAKEN AFTER HEARING A REPORT DELIVERED BY DC DEPUTY PARTY SECRETARY GALLONI ON BEHALF OF THE SIX PARTIES WHICH SUSTAIN THE ANDREOTTI GOVERNMENT. GALLONI SAYS HE REPORTED TO THE LABOR LEADERS "THE NEW FACTORS WHICH HAVE EMERGED FROM THE MEETING OF THE LEADERS OF THE SIX PARTIES" WHICH WAS HELD ON JANUARY 4.

4. GALLONI ALSO INVITED THE CCU TO MEET WITH THE LEADERS OF THE SIX PARTIES. THIS INVITATION HAS BEEN ACCEPTED. THE MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE ON JANUARY 12. GALLONI INDICATED THAT BY THAT TIME "WE (PRESUMABLY, THE SIX PARTIES) WILL HAVE BEEN ABLE TO ELABORATE SOME NEW PROGRAMS." THE DC DIRECTORATE IS SCHEDULED TO CONVENE ON JANUARY 11.

5. COMMENT: THE CCU CHOSE, IN EFFCT, TO REGARD GALLONI'S REPORT AS AN INDICATION THAT THE TERMINAL PHASE OF THE ANDREOTTI GOVERNMENT HAS OFFICIALLY BEGUN. THEY THUS FOLLOWED THE CONSEL OF CISL DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL CARNITI THAT THERE IS NO POINT IN FIXING A DATE FOR A GENERAL STRIKE AGAINST THE POLICIES OF A GOVERNMENT WHICH MAY NO LONGER EXIST BY THE TIME THE STRIKE IS HELD. THEORETICALLY, AT LEAST, A STRIKE DATE NO LATER THAN JANUARY 18 COULD YET BE PROCLAIMED BY THE CCU EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE ON JANURY 13.GARDNER

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